

Expected foreign exchange earnings during next two years

1959. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated foreign exchange earned from Tourism by Government during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the details of countries from where maximum number of tourists visited India during the period;
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to extend more facilities to the tourists in India, State-wise, details thereof; and
- (d) the expected foreign exchange earning as a result thereof during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism during the years 1998, 1999 & 2000 are Rs. 12150 crores, Rs. 12951 crores and Rs. 14238 crores respectively. State-wise foreign exchange earnings are not estimated.

(b) During each of the last three years, maximum number of tourist arrivals was recorded from the United Kingdom.

(c) Various steps taken by the Government to provide more facilities to tourists in India include development and improvement of tourist infrastructure, publicity through print and electronic media and dissemination of information using information technology, installation of information KIOSKS at places of tourist interest, etc.

(d) Projection of foreign exchange earning for the future have not been made.